WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1.   A method for enabling anonymous communications from

2   a first device using Bluetooth communications protocol,

3   comprising the steps of:

4   obtaining a temporary identification number for the

5   first device; and

6   transmitting information including the temporary

7   identification number from the first device.

1   2.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining

2   further comprises the step of generating the temporary

3   identification number at the first device.

1   3.   The method of Claim 2, wherein the step of

2   generating further comprises generating the temporary

3   identification number using an algorithm.

1   4.   The method of Claim 2, wherein the step of

2   generating further comprises generating the temporary

3   identification number at a Bluetooth chip within the first

4   device.

1   5.   The method of Claim 2, wherein the step of

2 generating further comprises the step of generating the

3 temporary identification number on a periodic basis.

1   6.   The method of Claim 2, wherein the step of

2 generating further comprises the step of generating the

3 temporary identification number at random intervals.

1   7.   The method of Claim 2, wherein the step of

2 generating further comprises the step of generating the

3 temporary identification number at a beginning of a

4 transaction.

1   8.   The method of Claim 2, further including the steps

2 of generating an access code identifying a format of the

3 temporary identification number.

1   9.   The method of Claim 8, wherein the step of

2 transmitting further includes transmitting information

3 including the temporary identification number and the access

4 code.

1   10.   The method of Claim 1, further including the step of

2   periodically obtaining a new temporary identification number

3   to be associated with the first device.

1   11.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining

2   further   comprises   the   step   of   receiving   a   temporary

3   identification number from a source located remotely from the

4   first device.

1   12.   The   method   of   Claim   11,   wherein   the   step   of

2   receiving further comprises the steps of:

3   requesting the temporary identification number from

4   the remote source; and

5   receiving the temporary identification number from

6   the remote source responsive to the request.

1   13.   The method of Claim 12, wherein the step of

2 requesting the temporary identification number further

3 includes the steps of:

4   generating a random identification number at the

5 first device; and

6   using the random identification number within the

7 request for the temporary identification number.

1   14.   The method of Claim 13, wherein the step of

2 generating a random identification number comprises the step

3 of randomly generating a portion of bits comprising a

4 Bluetooth address.

1   15.   The method of Claim 14, further including the step

2 of periodically regenerating the portion of the bits

3 comprising the Bluetooth address.

1   16.   The method of Claim 13, wherein the step of

2 generating a random identification number comprises the step

3 of randomly generating 32 bits of the 48 bits of the Bluetooth

4 addresses.

1   17. The method of Claim 13, wherein the step of

2   generating a random identification number comprises the step

3   of randomly generating LAP and UAP fields of a Bluetooth

4   address.

1   18. The method of Claim 11, wherein the step of

2   receiving a temporary identification number further comprises

3   receiving an identity token for use as the temporary

4   identification number broadcast from the remote source.

1   19. The method of Claim 18, wherein the identity token

2   is substantially continuously broadcast.

1   20. The method of Claim 11, wherein the step of

2   receiving further comprises the step of receiving the

3   temporary identification number responsive to an inquiry from

4   the remote source.

1   21. The method of Claim 11, wherein the remote source

2   comprises a non Bluetooth device.

1   22.   The method of Claim 11, wherein the remote source

2 comprises a Bluetooth device.

1   23.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining

2 further comprises the steps of:

3   storing multiple temporary identification numbers

4 within the first device; and

5   randomly selecting one of the multiple temporary

6 identification numbers as the temporary identification number.

1   24.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining

2 further comprises the steps of:

3   establishing a first connection between the first

4 device and a second device;

5   exchanging data over the first connection between

6 the first and the second devices; and

7   generating the temporary identification number using

8 the exchanged data.

1   25.   The method of Claim 24, wherein the data comprises

2 a non-temporary identification number and an index value.

1   26.   A method for enabling anonymous communications

2   between a first Bluetooth device and a second Bluetooth

3   device, comprising the steps of:

4   generating a temporary identification number at the

5   first Bluetooth device using an algorithm within the first

6   Bluetooth device;

7   inserting the temporary identification number as a

8   Bluetooth   identification   number   into   messages   to   be

9   transmitted from the first Bluetooth device; and

10   transmitting the messages from the first Bluetooth

11   device to the second Bluetooth device.

1   27.   The method of Claim 26, wherein the step of

2   generating further comprises the step of generating the

3   temporary identification number on a periodic basis.

1   28.   The method of Claim 26, wherein the step of

2   generating further comprises the step of generating the

3   temporary identification number at random intervals.

1   29. The method of Claim 26, wherein the step of
2   generating further comprises the step of generating the
3   temporary identification number at a beginning of a
4   transaction.

1   30. The method of Claim 26, further including the step
2   of periodically obtaining a new temporary identification
3   number to be associated with the Bluetooth communications
4   protocol.

1   31. The method of Claim 30, further including the step
2   of inserting a period of time the temporary identification
3   number is valid into the message.

1   32. A method for enabling anonymous communications

2 between a first Bluetooth device and a second Bluetooth

3 device, comprising the steps of:

4   establishing a first connection between the first

5 device and the second Bluetooth device;

6   exchanging a non-temporary identification number and

7 an index value over the first connection between the first

8 Bluetooth and the second Bluetooth devices;

9   generating a temporary identification number using

10 the non-temporary identification number and an index value;

11 and

12   establishing a connection between the first

13 Bluetooth device and the second Bluetooth device using the

14 temporary identification number as a Bluetooth identification

15 number.

1   33. A method for enabling anonymous communications

2   between a first Bluetooth device and a second Bluetooth

3   device, comprising the steps of:

4   generating a random identification number at the

5   first Bluetooth device;

6   transmitting a request including the random

7   identification number as a Bluetooth identification number to

8   the second Bluetooth device;

9   transmitting a response to the request including a

10   temporary identification number from the second Bluetooth

11   device to the first Bluetooth device;

12   establishing communications between the first and

13   the second Bluetooth devices using the temporary

14   identification number as a Bluetooth identification number.

1   34. A method for enabling anonymous communications

2   between a first Bluetooth device and a second Bluetooth

3   device, comprising the steps of:

4   broadcasting an identity token from a location;

5   receiving the identity token at the first Bluetooth

6   device; and

7   transmitting messages from the first Bluetooth

8   device to the second Bluetooth device including the identity

9   token therein as a Bluetooth identification number.

1   35. A method for enabling anonymous communications

2   between a first Bluetooth device and a second Bluetooth

3   device, comprising the steps of:

4   generating a Bluetooth address having randomly

5   generated LAP and UAP fields; and

6   establishing a connection between the first

7   Bluetooth device and the second Bluetooth device using the

8   generated Bluetooth address.

1   36. The method of Claim 35, further including the steps

2   of:

3   establishing a security pairing between the first

4   Bluetooth device and the second Bluetooth device; and

5   exchanging fixed Bluetooth addresses between the

6   first Bluetooth device and the second Bluetooth device.

1   37. The method of Claim 35, wherein the step of

2   establishing further comprises the steps of:

3   generating an access code from the generated

4   Bluetooth address; and

5   paging the second Bluetooth device from the first

6   Bluetooth device using the generated access code.

1   38. A Bluetooth device, comprising:

2   circuitry for communicating from the Bluetooth

3 device to a second Bluetooth device; and

4   a module for obtaining a temporary identification

5 number for use in from the Bluetooth device to the second

6 Bluetooth device.

1   39. The Bluetooth device of Claim 38, further including

2 a first storage area for storing the temporary identification

3 number.

1   40. The Bluetooth device of Claim 39, further including

2 a second storage area for storing a fixed identification

3 number associated with the Bluetooth device.

1   41. The Bluetooth device of Claim 38, further including

2 a table for storing of temporary identification numbers

3 associated with other Bluetooth devices communicating with the

4 Bluetooth device.

1   42. A method for enabling anonymous communications

2   between a first wireless network device and a second wireless

3   network device, comprising the steps of:

4   generating a temporary identification number at the

5   first wireless network device using an algorithm within the

6   first wireless network device;

7   inserting the temporary identification number as a

8   wireless network identification number into messages to be

9   transmitted from the first wireless network device; and

10   transmitting the messages from the first wireless

11   network device to the second wireless network device.

1   43. A method for enabling anonymous communications

2 between a first wireless network device and a second wireless

3 network device, comprising the steps of:

4   establishing a first connection between the first

5 wireless network device and the second wireless network

6 device;

7   exchanging a non-temporary identification number and

8 an index value over the first connection between the first

9 wireless network device and the second wireless network

10 devices;

11   generating a temporary identification number using

12 the non-temporary identification number and an index value;

13 and

14   establishing a connection between the first wireless

15 network device and the second wireless network device using

16 the temporary identification number as a wireless network

17 identification number.

1   44. A method for enabling anonymous communications

2 between a first wireless network device and a second wireless

3 network device, comprising the steps of:

4   generating a random identification number at the

5 first wireless network device;

6   transmitting a request including the random

7 identification number as a wireless network identification

8 number to the second wireless network device;

9   transmitting a response to the request including a

10 temporary identification number from the second wireless

11 network device to the first wireless network device;

12   establishing communications between the first and

13 the second wireless network devices using the temporary

14 identification number as a wireless network identification

15 number.

1   45. A method for enabling anonymous communications

2 between a first wireless network device and a second wireless

3 network device, comprising the steps of:

4   broadcasting an identity token from a location;

5   receiving the identity token at the first wireless

6 network device; and

7   transmitting messages from the first wireless

8 network device to the second wireless network device including

9 the identity token therein as a wireless network

10 identification number.